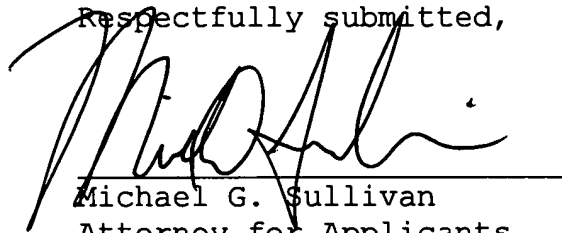


REMARKS

Claims 1- 14 are cancelled and new claims 15-47 are presented for examination. These new claims are presented to conform the language of the claims to accepted U.S. patent practice, to eliminate multiple dependencies, to recite particular embodiments and to claim additional aspects of the invention disclosed in the specification without limiting the scope of the claims as first written and not for the reasons of patentability under 35 U.S.C.

It is believed that claims 15-47 recite a patentable improvement in the art. Favorable action is solicited. In the event any fees are required with this paper, please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2334.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael G. Sullivan
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 35,377

Attorney Docket No. 2000.552 US

Akzo Nobel Patent Department
1300 Piccard Drive, Suite 206
Rockville, Maryland 20850
Tel: (301) 948-7400
Fax: (301) 948-9751
MGS:lcf
41THIEL-PREAMENDMENT